

1345.4 - SA Stats, Jan 2011

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 25/01/2011

Summary

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Feature Articles

NEW THIS MONTH - Household Water Consumption and Conservation Actions
SA households' average daily water consumption down 34% between 2000-01 and 2009-10.



Demography

Includes: **Estimated resident population, Components of population change**
South Australia's estimated resident population (ERP) increased by approximately 20,000 for the year ended 30 June 2010.



Labour Force

Includes: **Contents, Employed persons, Unemployment, Participation rate**
South Australia's trend unemployment rate 5.6% in December 2010.



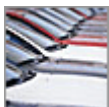
Incomes

Includes: **Average weekly earnings**
Females working full-time in South Australia earned 13.1% less than male counterparts, on average, in August 2010.



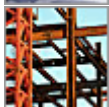
State Accounts

Includes: **State accounts, Household final consumption expenditure (HFCE)**
Household expenditure on 'Electricity, gas and other fuels' increased 5.2% in the September quarter 2010.



Consumption

Includes: **Retail trade, New motor vehicle sales**
SA's November 2010 retail turnover estimate down 0.9% from October sales.



Investment

Includes: **Private new capital expenditure, Mineral and petroleum exploration expenditure**
Exploration expenditure on Copper and Uranium accounts for more than two thirds of SA's mineral exploration in the September quarter 2010.



Construction

Includes: **Building approvals, Construction work done**
Dwelling unit approvals in SA fall 5.4% in November 2010.



Price Indexes

Includes: **Contents, Consumer price index, Wage price index, House price index**
Adelaide's house price index falls for the first time since March 2009.



Housing Finance

Includes: **Housing finance commitments**
Average loan size for first and non-first home buyers converges at \$233,500 in November 2010.



International Merchandise Trade

Includes: **Exports and Imports**
Copper remains SA's number one export commodity for second consecutive month in November 2010.



Water

Includes: **Rainfall, Reservoir levels**
SA Reservoir levels hold steady at 85% of capacity due to record December 2010 rainfall.

In this issue

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE	Release Date
February 2011	22 February 2011
March 2011	29 March 2011
April 2011	28 April 2011
May 2011	31 May 2011
June 2011	28 June 2011

WHAT'S NEW THIS MONTH

This month's **SA Stats** presents a feature article highlighting water consumption trends and water conservation actions of South Australian households. Attention is given to the periods when water saving strategies were introduced by the South Australian Government, namely Permanent Water Conservation Measures (2003) and Level 3 Water Restrictions (2007).

Recent data from SA Water show that South Australian households reduced their average daily consumption of water from 756 litres (L) in 2000-01 to 501 L in 2009-10, a decrease of 34%. For the corresponding period, the state's daily water consumption per capita (or person) fell from 539 L to 385 L - a 29% decrease.

Topics which have been updated with new data in this month's issue of **SA Stats** include: Construction; Consumption; Demography; Housing Finance; International Merchandise Trade; Labour Force; and Water.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Arnold Strals on Adelaide (08) 8237 7365, or email <sa.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Feature Articles



FEATURE ARTICLES

2011

Jan 2011 Household Water Consumption and Conservation Actions

2010

Dec 2010 Women in South Australia's workforce

Nov 2010 National Regional Profile: Regional data made easy!

Oct 2010 Making better use of Public Sector information

Sep 2010 Where have all the male teachers gone?

Aug 2010	Beefing up our economy: Meat production in South Australia
Jul 2010	Children's Use of the Internet and Mobile Phones in South Australia
Jun 2010	International Students and the VET sector in South Australia
May 2010	Interstate Departures from South Australia
Apr 2010	Engineering Construction in South Australia
Mar 2010	Burial and cremation trends in South Australia
Feb 2010	The new Australian Statistical Geography Standard
Jan 2010	Houses in South Australia: The cost of building a dream
2009	
Dec 2009	International Students in South Australia
Nov 2009	Perceptions of Crime and Safety in South Australia
Oct 2009	Who's Not in the Labour Force?
Sep 2009	One parent families with dependent children in South Australia
Aug 2009	Heating and Cooling
Jul 2009	What are South Australians Studying?
Jun 2009	Water Efficiency in South Australia's Vineyards
May 2009	Journey to Work in the City of Adelaide
Apr 2009	Housing Finance - First Home Buyers and Other Borrowers
Feb 2009	Recent Increases in South Australia's Fertility
Jan 2009	South Australian Household Final Consumption Expenditure
2008	
Dec 2008	Energy Consumption in South Australia
Nov 2008	Adelaide's Population Turnover
Oct 2008	Contributors to Adelaide's Price Rises
Sep 2008	<u>Adelaide's Suburbs of Advantage and Disadvantage</u>
Aug 2008	South Australia's Agriculture Industry
July 2008	<u>New Dwelling Approvals in South Australia</u>
May 2008	<u>Literacy of South Australians</u>
April 2008	<u>South Australia's Migrant Population</u>
	<u>South Australia's Ageing Population and the Labour Force</u>
Feb 2008	<u>South Australia's Mining Industry</u>
	<u>Water Supply in South Australia</u>
Jan 2008	<u>Labour Force Underutilisation and the Underemployed in South Australia</u>
	<u>Water Use in Agriculture - A South Australian Perspective</u>
2007	
Nov 2007	<u>Sports Attendance in South Australia</u>
	<u>Recorded Crime - Victims, South Australia, 2006</u>
Oct 2007	<u>Attendance at Cultural Venues and Events by South Australians</u>
Aug 2007	<u>Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities - South Australia, 2006</u>
Jul 2007	<u>South Australia's big picture: Census highlights the changes in South Australian society</u>
	<u>Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation Activities - South Australia</u>
May 2007	<u>Health of South Australians - Body Mass</u>
	<u>Household Use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
Apr 2007	<u>Employment in the Retail Trade Industry in South Australia</u>
	<u>River Murray - South Australia</u>
Mar 2007	<u>Household Waste Management in South Australia</u>
Feb 2007	<u>Births - South Australia</u>
Jan 2007	<u>Gross Domestic Product and Gross State Product</u>
2006	
Dec 2006	<u>Rainfall in South Australia, South Australian Reservoirs, Water Consumption</u>
Nov 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health related actions</u>

Oct 2006	<u>National Regional Profile - New Release, New Features</u>
Sep 2006	<u>Fuel Production and Consumption, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Land Use Change and Forrestry</u>
Aug 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Risk Behaviours</u> <u>The South Australian Grape Industry</u>
Jul 2006	<u>Use of IT By Australian Businesses</u> <u>Household use of the Internet in South Australia</u>
May 2006	<u>Health of South Australians - Health Status</u>
Apr 2006	<u>International Trade in Services</u> <u>International Students in South Australia</u>
Feb 2006	<u>Labour Force and Other Characteristics of Migrants in South Australia</u>
Jan 2006	<u>Survey of work in selected Culture & Leisure Activities</u>
2005	
Nov 2005	<u>Household Income in South Australia</u> <u>Household Expenditure in South Australia</u>
Oct 2005	<u>SA Business and Innovation</u> <u>Recent History of Population change in South Australia, 1993-94 to 2003-04</u>
Aug 2005	<u>Average Weekly Earnings</u> <u>Transition from School</u>

Demography



DEMOGRAPHY

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

The estimated resident population (ERP) for South Australia was 1,644,600 at 30 June 2010, an increase of about 20,000 persons (1.2%) since 30 June 2009. Nationally, the ERP was 22,342,400 at 30 June 2010, an increase of about 377,100 persons (1.7%) since 30 June 2009.

ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION, Preliminary data

	Population at end June quarter 2010 '000	Change over previous year '000	Change over previous year %
New South Wales	7 238.8	105.4	1.5
Victoria	5 547.5	99.3	1.8
Queensland	4 516.4	89.1	2.0
South Australia	1 644.6	20.1	1.2
Western Australia	2 296.4	49.1	2.2
Tasmania	507.6	4.4	0.9
Northern Territory	229.7	3.5	1.5
Australian Capital Territory	358.9	6.3	1.8
Australia(a)	22 342.4	377.1	1.7

(a) Includes Other Territories comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands.
Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

In 2008-09, the South Australian Statistical Division (SD) with the largest percentage increase in ERP was Outer Adelaide (1.9%) followed by Yorke and Lower North (1.4%).

Estimated Resident Population^(a), By Statistical Division - South Australia

	2008		2009	
	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %	Population at 30 June '000	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	1 172.6	1.2	1 187.5	1.3
Outer Adelaide	134.1	2.0	136.6	1.9
Yorke and Lower North	46.4	1.1	47.1	1.4
Murray Lands	70.2	0.5	70.4	0.4
South East	65.4	0.8	66.0	0.8
Eyre	35.2	0.6	35.6	1.0
Northern	80.1	0.7	80.5	0.5
South Australia	1 604.0	1.1	1 623.6	1.2

(a) Estimates for 2008 are revised to align with new 2008 state and territory totals and estimates for 2009 are preliminary.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia 2008-09 (cat. no. 3218.0)

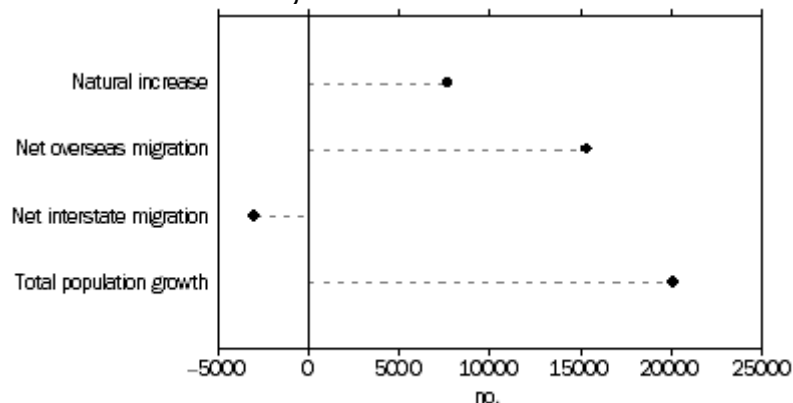
[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions](#) (PDF 3.083MB)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

For the year ended 30 June 2010, South Australia recorded a natural increase (i.e. the net of births and deaths) of 7,663 persons. Net overseas migration provided a gain of 15,371 persons in the same period while net interstate migration realised a loss of 2,964 persons.

For the year ended 30 June 2010, Australia recorded a natural increase in population of 161,535 persons; net overseas migration resulted in a gain of 215,576 people.

POPULATION GROWTH, South Australia - Year ended June 2010



Source: Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0)

Labour Force



LABOUR FORCE

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[Employed persons](#)

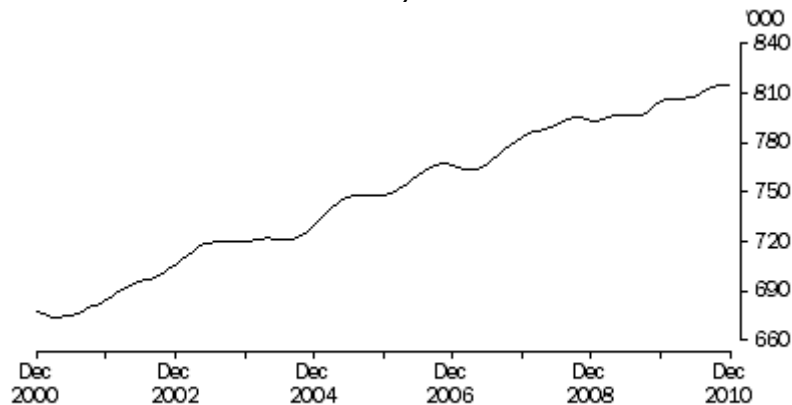
[Unemployment](#)

[Participation rate](#)

EMPLOYED PERSONS

Following a period of steady growth, the total number of persons employed in South Australia has plateaued over the last three months. The December 2010 estimate of 815,100 persons employed is 1.3% above the estimate recorded in December 2009 (805,000). Nationally, a total of 11,418,100 persons were employed in December 2010; an increase of 3.3% over the corresponding month of the previous year.

EMPLOYED PERSONS, Trend - South Australia



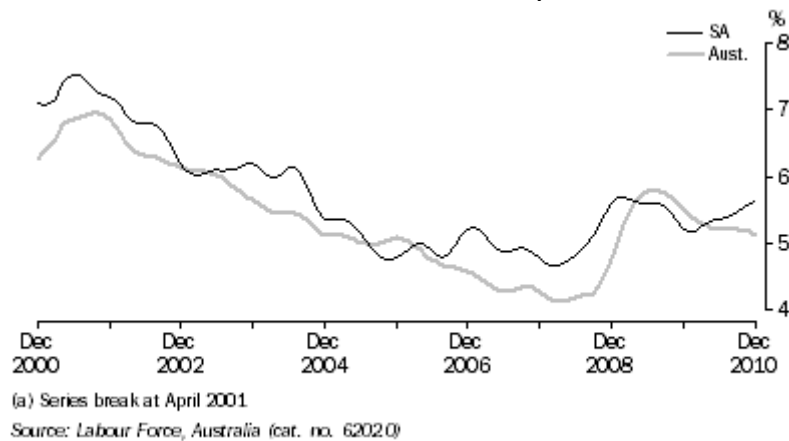
Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

The number of males employed full-time in South Australia increased marginally to 364,100 (in trend terms) in December 2010. Looking at the composition of all male employees, those working full-time accounted for 83.3% of the male workforce, up from 80.9% in December 2009. The number of females employed full-time increased for the fourteenth consecutive month, up marginally to 191,400, with the December 2010 estimate 5.0% higher than the corresponding month of the previous year. At that time full-time female employees accounted for 49.5% of the female workforce, but in December 2010 this proportion was 50.6%.

UNEMPLOYMENT

South Australia's trend unemployment rate for 2010 has shown a general upward trend and was 5.6% in December 2010. The estimate remains above the national unemployment rate for the eighth consecutive month, with the Australian unemployment rate (in trend terms) trending downward over the same period. The Australian unemployment rate for December 2010 fell slightly to 5.1%.

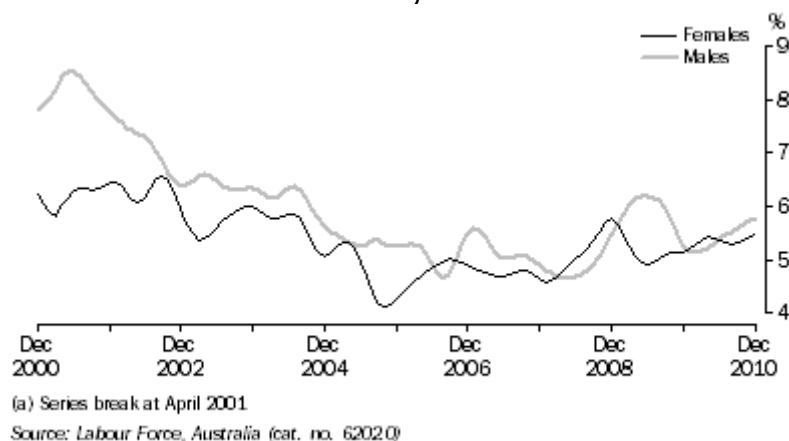
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend



From a low of 5.1% in early 2010, the trend unemployment rate for South Australian males has generally risen, and in December 2010 the estimate rose to 5.8%. Over the same period the trend unemployment rate for South Australian females has fluctuated, increasing to 5.5% in December 2010. The female unemployment rate remains below the male rate for the sixth consecutive month.

Nationally, the trend unemployment rates for males and females in December 2010 remained steady at 4.9% and 5.5% respectively.

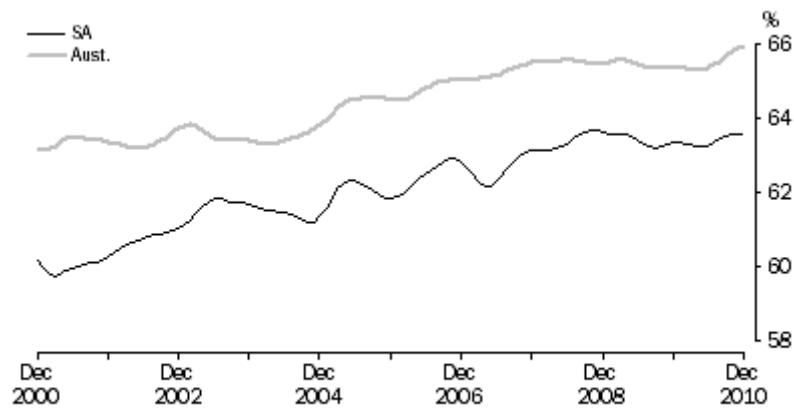
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, Trend - South Australia



PARTICIPATION RATE

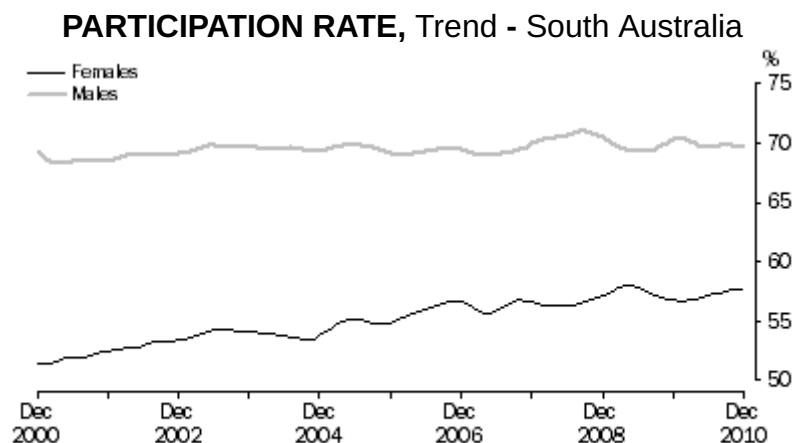
Following a period of relative stability in early 2010, the trend estimate of the participation rate for South Australia has generally risen and was 63.6% in December 2010. Australia's trend participation rate has followed a similar pattern over the same period, increasing to 66.0% in December.

PARTICIPATION RATE, Trend



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

Falling from a high of 70.3% in early 2010, the South Australian participation rate for males has remained relatively stable for the remainder of the year and was 69.7% in December 2010. The Australian participation rate for males has gradually risen over the same period reaching 72.9% at years end. From a low of 56.7% at the beginning of the year, the participation rate for South Australian females has generally trended upward and was 57.7% in December. The Australian female participation rate rose slightly to 59.2% in December 2010.



Source: Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

Incomes



INCOMES

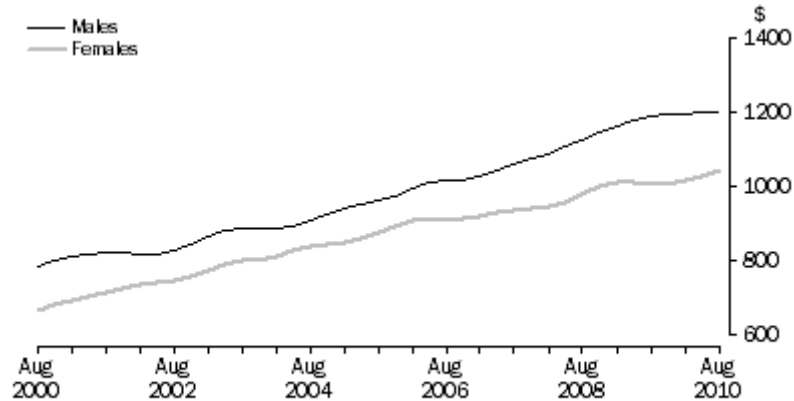
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

The trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings for full-time adult persons in South Australia increased by 2.2% to \$1,146.20 in the 12 months to August 2010. Nationally, the trend estimate of average weekly (ordinary time) earnings increased 4.4% (up to \$1,259.40).

In the 12 months to August 2010, average weekly full-time earnings in South Australia for males increased by 1.0% to \$1,201.00. Whilst the rate of growth in South Australian male earnings has slowed considerably, it has remained positive. In comparison, the series for female earnings has shown more variability in recent times, increasing 3.7% in the 12 months to August 2010 to \$1,043.80. On average, South Australian females working full-time earn 13.1% less than their male counterparts.

Nationally, male average weekly full-time earnings increased 4.2% to \$1,343.90 and female earnings rose 4.7% to \$1,116.70 in the year to August 2010.

FULL-TIME ORDINARY EARNINGS, South Australia: Trend



Source: Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)

For information on the wage price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

State Accounts



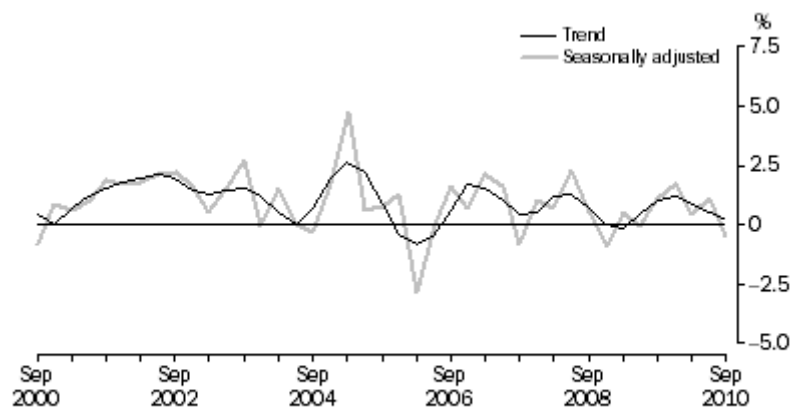
STATE ACCOUNTS

STATE ACCOUNTS

South Australia's September quarter 2010 State Final Demand in chain volume (trend) terms was \$21,709m; an increase of 0.2% from the June quarter 2010 and 4.1% over the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Australia's Domestic Final Demand grew 0.7% to \$325,655m in the September quarter 2010.

All states and territories recorded increases for the September quarter 2010. The Australian Capital Territory reported the largest growth for the period (up 1.9%), while the Northern Territory recorded the smallest (up 0.1%).

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures, Quarterly change, South Australia

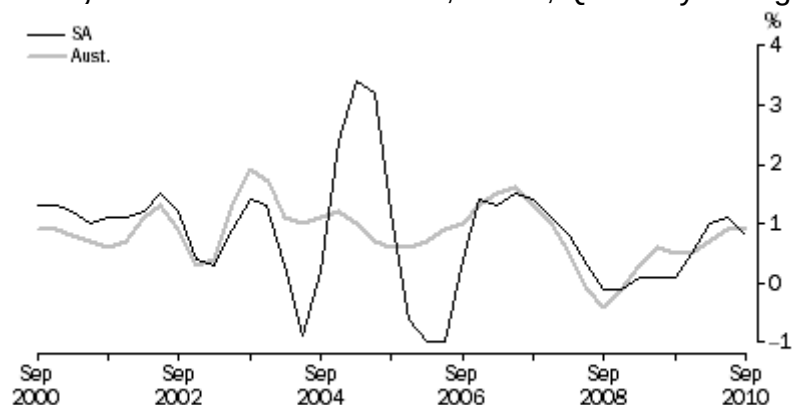


Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

HOUSEHOLD FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (HFCE)

In chain volume (trend) terms, South Australia's September quarter 2010 HFCE was \$12,413m; an increase of 0.8% over the result recorded in the June quarter 2010 and representing 7.1% of the national total (\$175,023m). The value of HFCE for Australia increased by 0.9% between the June and September quarters 2010.

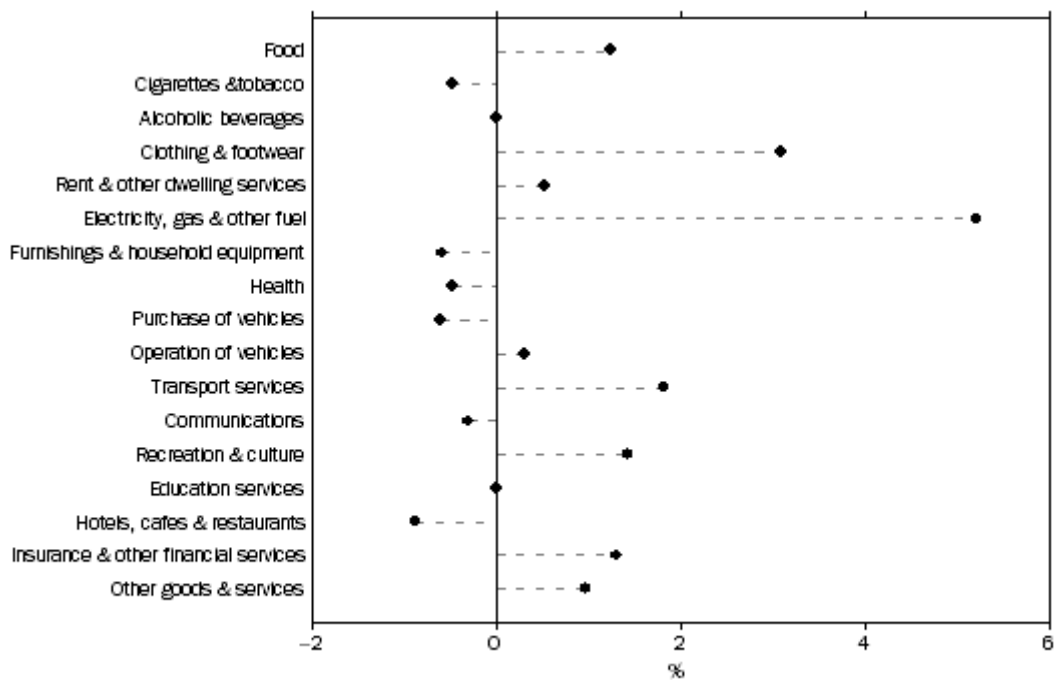
HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

The main contributors to growth in HFCE in South Australia for the September quarter 2010 were Electricity, gas and other fuels (up 5.2% from the June quarter 2010) and Clothing and footwear (up 3.1%) and Transport services (up 1.8%). The largest decreases in expenditure were for Hotels, cafes and restaurants (down 0.9%), Furnishings and household equipment and the Purchase of vehicles (down 0.6%).

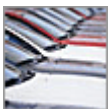
HFCE, Chain volume measures, Trend, Quarterly change, South Australia - September Quarter 2010



Source: Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)

At the national level, expenditure increases were reported for most categories. The largest increases were for Purchase of vehicles (up 2.6% from the June quarter 2010), Recreation and culture (up 2.1%), and Transport services (up 1.6%). The largest decreases in expenditure were for Alcoholic beverages and Clothing and footwear (down 0.4%).

Consumption



CONSUMPTION

RETAIL TRADE

The November 2010 seasonally adjusted estimate for South Australia's retail turnover was \$1,450.9m, a fall of 0.9% from the previous month (\$1,464.1m), and 0.9% below the sales recorded in November of the previous year (\$1,463.9m). Nationally, retail turnover rose to \$20,327.5m in November 2010. This represents an increase of 0.3% over the previous month and 1.3% above the sales recorded in November 2009 (\$20,071.8m). South Australia's contribution to total retail turnover in Australia fell slightly to 7.1%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, South Australia

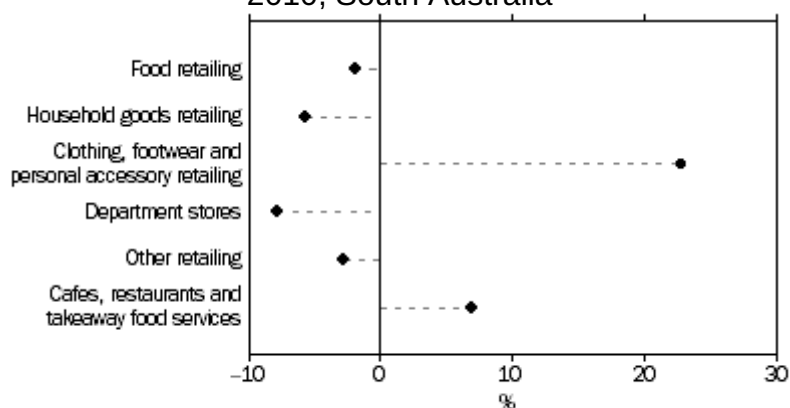


Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

Comparing November 2010 with November 2009, the only South Australian industry groups with increases in retail turnover (in seasonally adjusted terms) were Clothing, footwear and personal accessory retailing, up 22.8% to \$112.8m and Cafe, restaurants and takeaway food services, up 6.9% to \$155.7m.

Department stores recorded the largest industry group decrease in turnover over this period, falling by 7.8%.

RETAIL TURNOVER, Seasonally adjusted, Change from November 2009 to November 2010, South Australia



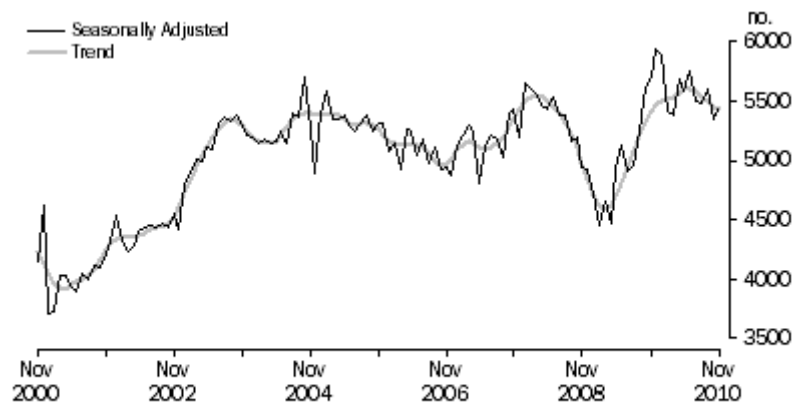
Source: Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501.0)

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES

Sales of new passenger vehicles in South Australia have fallen for the eleventh consecutive month to 3,141 in November 2010. The latest fall represents a slight drop (0.1%) from the October sales (3,144) and is 3.4% lower than sales in November 2009 (3,252). Total new vehicles sales also fell 0.5% in November 2010 to 5,420.

In Australia, new passenger vehicle sales fell for the seventh consecutive month, down marginally to 47,679 in November 2010 from 47,688 in October. The November 2010 estimate is 0.1% above the new passenger vehicle sales for the same time the previous year (47,623). Total new vehicle sales have remained relatively steady at 85,268 in November 2010.

NEW MOTOR VEHICLE SALES, South Australia



Source: Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0)

Investment



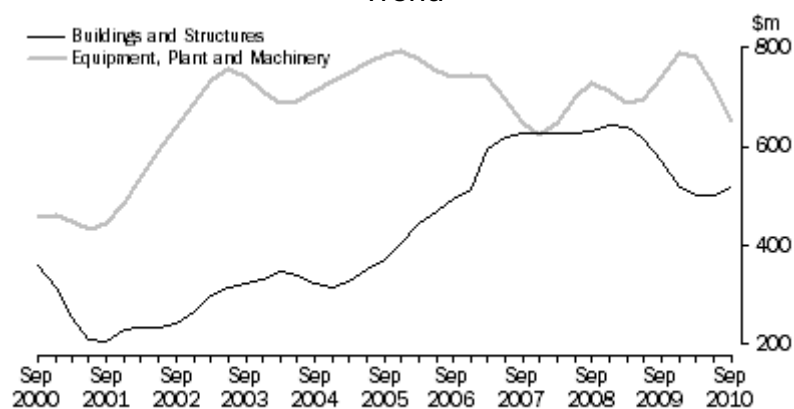
INVESTMENT

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Between the June and September quarters 2010, the South Australian chain volume (trend) estimate of private new capital expenditure fell by 4.4% to \$1,173m. Expenditure on Buildings and structures rose \$16m (3.4%) to \$519m, whilst expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell \$71m (9.8%) to \$652m.

Over the same period, private new capital expenditure for Australia rose \$409m (1.5%) to \$28,061m. Expenditure on Equipment, plant and machinery fell 4.8%, but expenditure on Buildings and structures rose 7.3%.

PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, South Australia - Chain volume measures - Trend



Source: Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (cat. no. 5625.0)

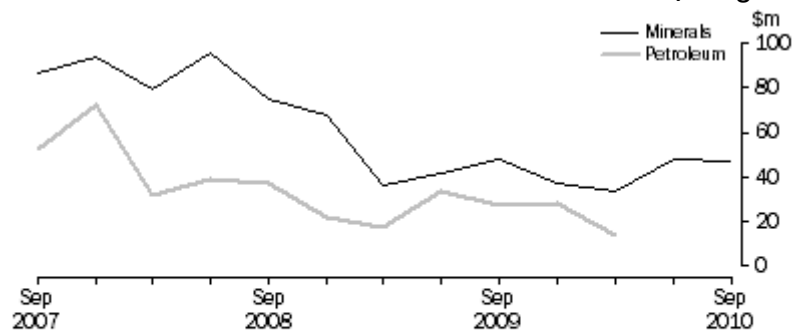
MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE

The value of South Australian mineral exploration expenditure (in original terms) was \$47.4m in the September quarter 2010; a decrease of 1.4% over the previous quarter and 50.2% below the peak recorded in the June quarter 2008 (\$95.2m). Australian expenditure on mineral exploration was \$669.4m in the September quarter 2010; an increase of 5.1% from the June quarter 2010 estimate (\$637.1m).

Exploration expenditure on Copper (\$18.6m) and Uranium (\$13.4m) accounted for more than two thirds (67.5%) of all South Australian mineral exploration expenditure in the September quarter 2010. A further \$7.0m was spent on exploration for Iron ore.

Data relating to expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia (and Victoria) were not available for publication in the June or September quarter 2010, but they have been included in the national total. Nationally, expenditure on petroleum exploration decreased by 15.5% from \$1,005.9m to \$850.4m between the June and September quarters 2010.

MINERAL AND PETROLEUM EXPLORATION EXPENDITURE, Original, South Australia



(a) Data relating to expenditure on petroleum exploration in South Australia was not available for publication in the June or September quarter 2010 but it has been included in the national total.

Source: Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia (cat. no. 8412.0)

Construction



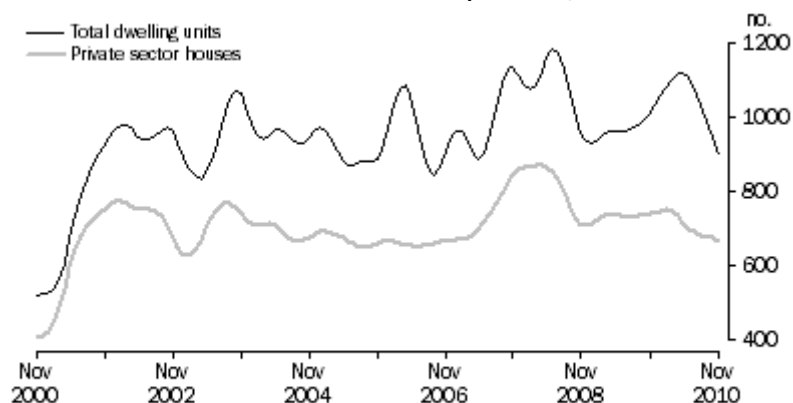
CONSTRUCTION

BUILDING APPROVALS

The number of dwelling units approved in South Australia has fallen for the sixth consecutive month with 899 approvals recorded in November 2010. This represents a decrease of 5.4% over the estimate for October (950), and 11.2% lower than at the same time in the previous year (1,012). Nationally, the number of dwelling units approved has fallen for the ninth consecutive month. The estimate of 12,953 in November 2010 is 16.1% below the peak recorded earlier in the year (15,443 approvals in February 2010).

The trend estimate for the number of private sector houses approved in South Australia fell marginally to 670 in November 2010. Private sector house approvals as a proportion of total dwelling units has risen in the last five months from a low of 63.3% in June 2010 to 74.5% in November 2010.

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, Trend, South Australia



Source: Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

In the year to November 2010, the total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia rose by 9.3%. Increases were recorded in four of the seven Statistical Divisions (SD) with the largest increase in the Murray Lands SD (up 65.3%). This follows a 17.1% decrease for this SD in the preceding twelve months to November 2009.

The largest decrease in dwelling units approved in the year to November 2010, occurred in the South East SD (down 10.2%).

DWELLING UNITS APPROVED, by Statistical Division, Original, South Australia

	Year ended November 2009		Year ended November 2010	
	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %	Dwelling units no.	Change over previous year %
Adelaide	8 179	-9.2	8 779	7.3
Outer Adelaide	1 508	-13.8	1 699	12.7
Yorke and Lower North	474	-21.3	553	16.7
Murray Lands	426	-17.1	704	65.3
South East	413	-22.1	371	-10.2
Eyre	257	-21.6	249	-3.1
Northern	352	-31.0	332	-5.7
South Australia	11 609	-12.3	12 687	9.3

Source: Building Approvals, Australia - data available on request

[Map of South Australia's Statistical Divisions](#) (PDF 3.083MB)

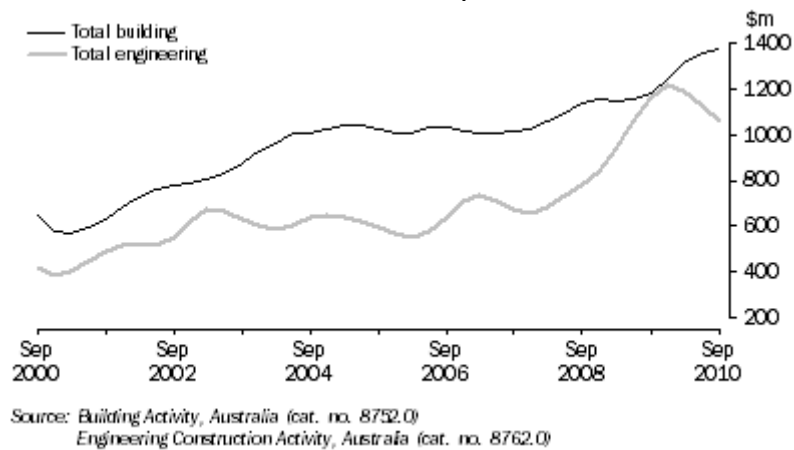
CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

In the September quarter 2010, the total value of building work done (in trend terms)* in South Australia rose to \$1,379.8m, an increase of 1.5% over the June quarter 2010.

Between the December quarters 2007 and 2009, the trend* estimate for the value of engineering work done rose sharply (\$660.8m to \$1,223.1m). Since this time, the value of engineering work has fallen to \$1,065.3m in the September quarter 2010.

The upsurge in engineering construction between the December quarters 2007 and 2009 was the focus of the feature article presented in the April 2010 issue of SA Stats.

VALUE OF CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE*, Chain volume measures - SA: Trend



*INTRODUCTION OF NEW BASE YEAR

A new base year, 2008-09, has been introduced into the chain volume estimates which has resulted in revisions to growth rates in subsequent periods. In addition, the chain volume estimates have been re-referenced to 2008-09, thereby preserving additivity in the quarters after the reference year. Re-referencing affects the levels of, but not the movements in, chain volume estimates.

Price Indexes



PRICE INDEXES

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[Consumer price index](#)

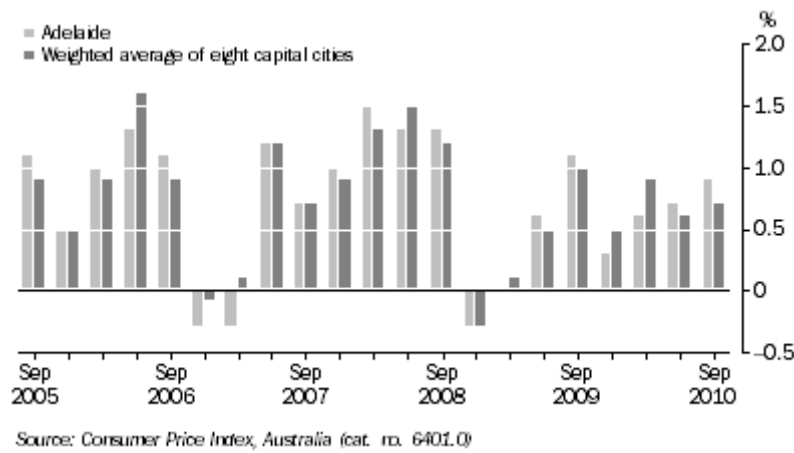
[Wage price index](#)

[House price index](#)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

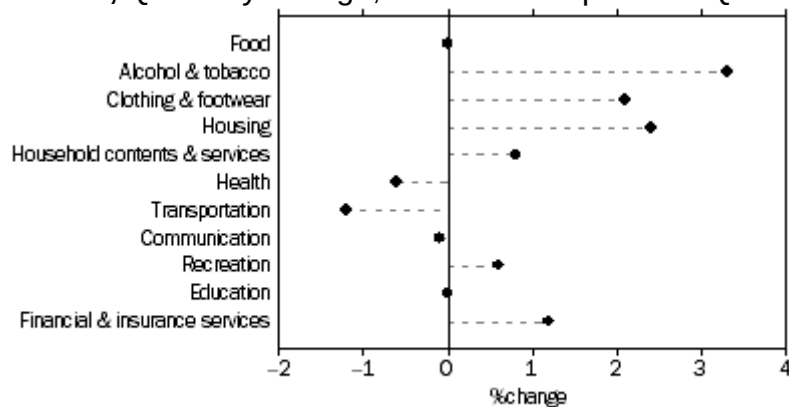
The all groups consumer price index (CPI) for Adelaide rose 0.9% during the September quarter 2010, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased by 0.7% in the same period. Adelaide's CPI increased by 2.6% in the year ending September quarter 2010, compared with a 2.8% rise in the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS, Quarterly change



Adelaide's largest percentage increases in prices from the previous quarter were for Alcohol and tobacco (3.3%) and Housing (2.4%). The largest decreases in prices from the previous quarter were for Transportation (1.2%) and Health (0.6%).

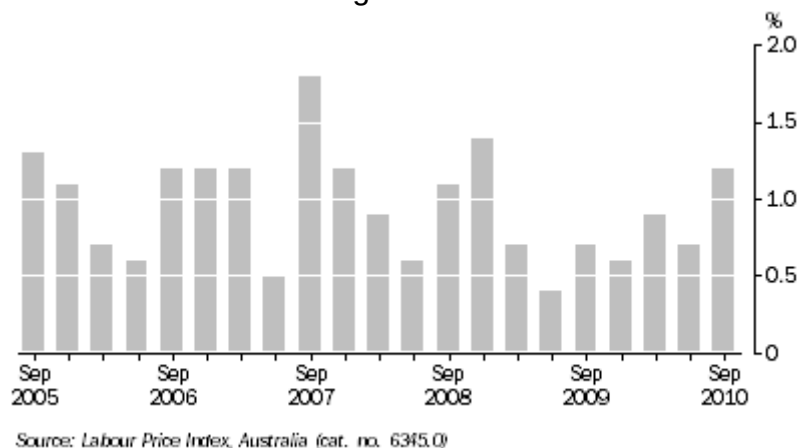
CPI GROUPS, Quarterly change, Adelaide - September Quarter 2010



WAGE PRICE INDEX

The wage price index for all employee jobs in South Australia increased by 1.2% (in original terms) between the June and September quarters 2010. This was slightly lower than the national increase of 1.4% over the same period.

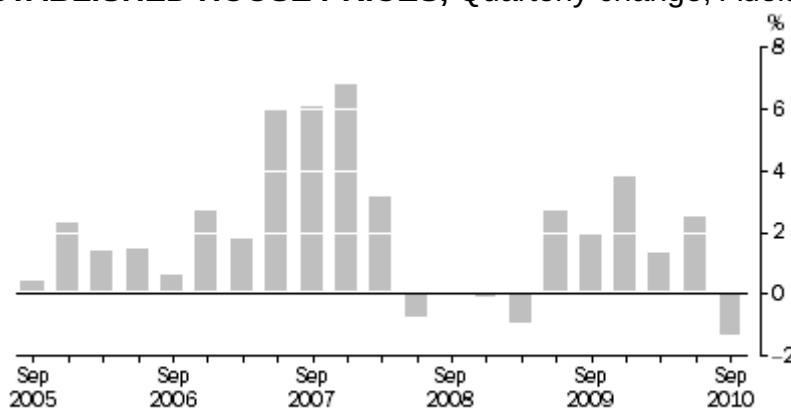
WAGE PRICE INDEX QUARTERLY CHANGES, Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses - Original: South Australia



HOUSE PRICE INDEX

Preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide (in original terms) has fallen by 1.4% in the September quarter 2010; the first quarterly decrease since March 2009. The price index rises recorded in Melbourne (2.7%), Perth (0.4%) and Darwin (0.3%), countered the decreases recorded in all other capitals and resulted in a slight increase in the price index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities of 0.1% in the September quarter 2010. Brisbane recorded the largest decrease (2.1%) of all the capital cities.

ESTABLISHED HOUSE PRICES, Quarterly change, Adelaide



Source: House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (cat. no. 6416.0)

In the 12 months to the September quarter 2010, preliminary estimates show the price index for established houses for Adelaide rose 6.3%, while the weighted average of the eight capital cities increased 11.5%. Melbourne (18.8%), Sydney (11.0%) and Canberra (11.0%) recorded the largest increases whilst Brisbane's increase of 3.0% was the lowest of all the capital cities.

Housing Finance

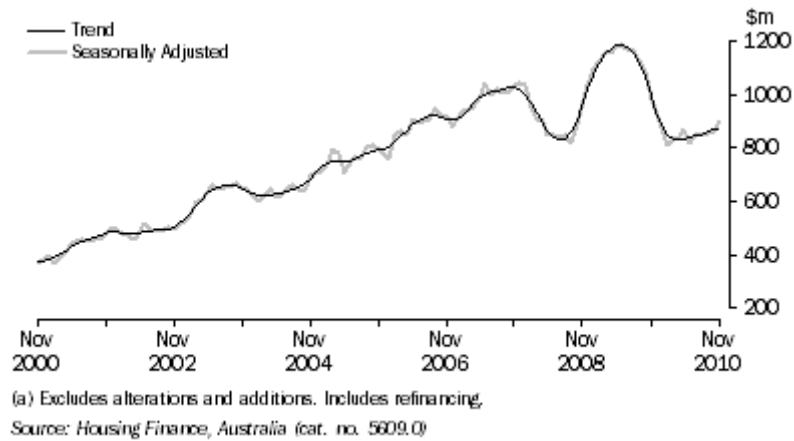


HOUSING FINANCE

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS

The trend estimate of the total value of housing finance commitments (owner occupation) in South Australia rose slightly in November 2010 to \$875m. The November estimate is 0.9% higher than the previous month, but is 26.1% lower than the peak value of housing finance commitments recorded in June 2009 (\$1,185m). Nationally, the value of housing finance commitments for owner occupation was \$14,202m in November 2010; 1.1% higher than October 2010 but 17.1% lower than the peak recorded in June 2009 (\$17,127m).

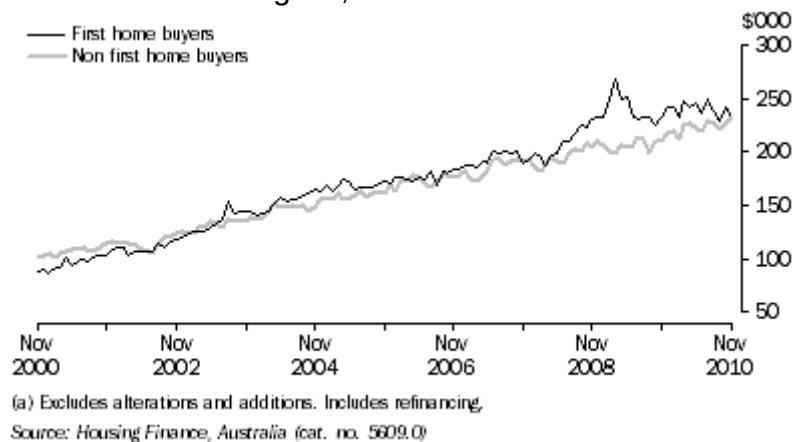
HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), South Australia



After a period of divergence, there was no distinction between the average loan commitment for first and non-first home buyers in November 2010, and were therefore equal to the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings at \$233,500.

The November 2010 estimate for the average home loan size for owner occupied dwellings increased 1.7% over the previous month, but was 18.7% lower than the average home loan size for Australia (\$287,300). The average loan commitment for first home buyers in South Australia fell 3.3% over the previous month, whilst the average loan size for non-firsts home buyers rose 2.4% over the same period.

HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS (OWNER OCCUPATION) (a), Average loan size, Original, South Australia



For information on the house price index, please refer to the '[Price Indexes](#)' topic.

International Merchandise Trade



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS

On a recorded trade basis, the value of South Australia's exports in November 2010 was \$710m; a decrease of 25.2% from October 2010 (\$949m) but 7.7% higher than the value recorded in November 2009 (\$659m).

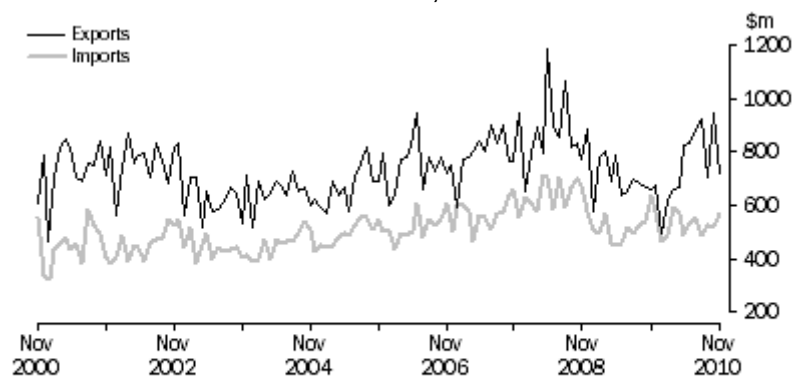
Copper remained South Australia's number one export commodity in November 2010, contributing 13.9% to the states total exports. Wine was the second largest contributor accounting for 10.8%, followed by Meat and meat preparations (9.6%).

The value of Australian merchandise exports for November 2010 was \$19,751m; 3.9% lower than October 2010 (\$20,543m) but 35.1% higher than the corresponding month of the previous year (\$14,615m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports rose to \$572m in November 2010. This estimate represents an increase of 9.7% from October 2010 (\$521m) but is 10.8% lower than the value recorded in November 2009 (\$641m).

The value of Australian merchandise imports for November 2010 was \$19,152m; an increase of 8.4% from the previous month and 9.0% higher than the value recorded in November of the previous year (\$17,564m).

VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (a), on a recorded trade basis, South Australia



(a) Exports where the final stage of production or manufacture occurs in South Australia.

Source: *International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia* (cat. no. 5368.0)

Water



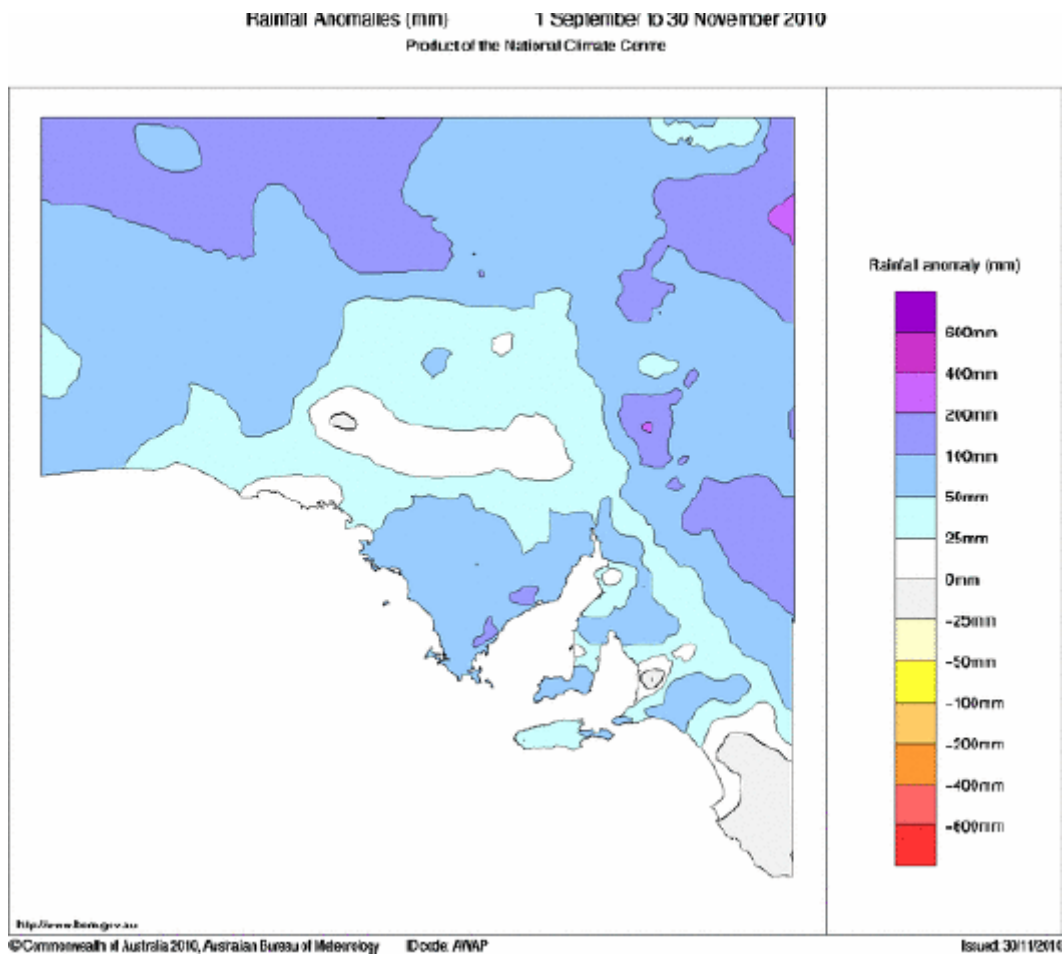
WATER

RAINFALL

According to the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Summary for South Australia, Spring 2010 was the second wettest spring on record, and below average temperatures were recorded across the state.

The above average spring rainfall was seen across a large part of South Australia due to a combination of simultaneous weather events not experienced since 1975.

Many South Australian sites experienced their highest total spring rainfall on record. The highest total rainfall for the state was recorded in Parawa (Second Valley Forest AWS), with 317.0mm.

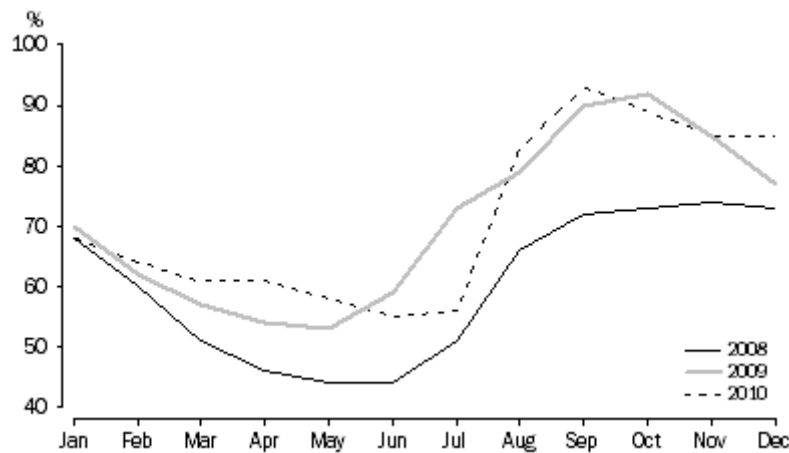


Source: 3-monthly rainfall anomalies for South Australia, Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

RESERVOIR LEVELS

For the month of December 2010, the Bureau of Meteorology reported Adelaide and hills rainfall totals well above average, largely as a result of severe thunderstorm activity in early December. Monthly totals were up to five times the December average, with several rainfall records broken in metropolitan Adelaide and hills areas. As a result, reservoir storage levels held steady at 85% of capacity by the end of December. This level is higher than in December 2009 (77%), and considerably higher than in December 2008 (73%).

TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE, As a percentage of capacity, Adelaide



Source: SA Water daily reservoir levels

About this Release

SA Stats provides an overview of the South Australian population and economy. The publication is updated on a monthly basis, with most releases also featuring an article that provides a South Australian focus on economic, social and environmental issues.

Explanatory Notes are not included in SA Stats in the form found in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

Household Water Consumption and Conservation Actions (Feature Article)

FEATURE ARTICLE: HOUSEHOLD WATER CONSUMPTION AND CONSERVATION ACTIONS

INTRODUCTION

Water conservation makes demands on most South Australian people and sectors of the state's economy. This article focuses on the actions adopted by the state's household sector in adapting to these demands. Attention is given to the periods when water saving strategies were introduced by the South Australian Government, namely Permanent Water Conservation Measures (2003) and Level 3 Water Restrictions (2007).

Household consumption of mains water supplied by SA Water (the state's principal water provider and the metropolitan area's only water provider) is examined along with details of household water conservation actions, as provided by the ABS Household Survey - "Environmental Issues: Water Use and Conservation", March 2010 (cat. no. 4602.55.003).

WATER SOURCES

MAINS WATER

Recent ABS data show that (at March 2010) almost all (99.6%) of Adelaide's households and 69% of households in the rest of the state were connected to a mains/town water supply. The corresponding national levels were 98% for capital cities and 84% for the rest of state/territory.

Recent data from SA Water show that South Australian households reduced their average daily consumption of water from 756 litres (L) in 2000-01 to 501 L in 2009-10, a decrease of 34%. For the corresponding period, the state's daily water consumption per capita (or person) fell from 539 L to 385 L - a 29% decrease.

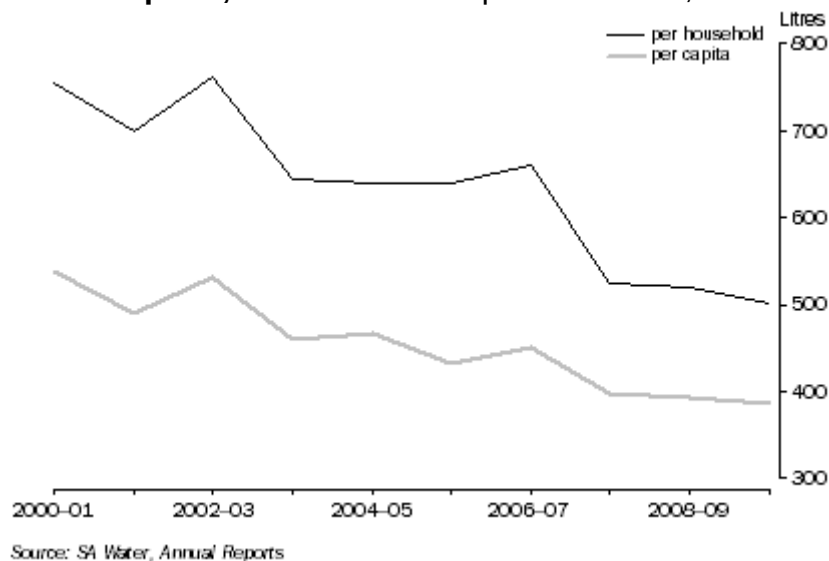
Permanent Water Conservation Measures, which aimed to reduce water consumption in the long-term and to promote water efficiency across the community, were put in place by the state government on 26 October 2003. This had a noticeable effect, with daily average household water consumption falling by 15%, from 762 L in 2002-03 to 644 L in 2003-04. Similarly the state's average daily consumption per capita fell by 13%, from 532 L to 460 L.

Between 2003-04 and 2005-06, the average daily consumption of water by households stayed around 640 L, followed by a slight increase to 660 L in 2006-7. However, in 2007-08, after the introduction of Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions (1 January 2007), water consumption fell markedly to 523 L and remained at this generally lower level in 2009-10.

The Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions ceased for most of the state on 1 December 2010, when Water Wise Measures came into effect. The Eyre Peninsula continues to be subject to Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions (post 1 December 2010).

The following graph shows recent patterns in daily average residential water consumption for South Australia, both for households and per capita.

Daily water consumption, residential water per household, total water per capita



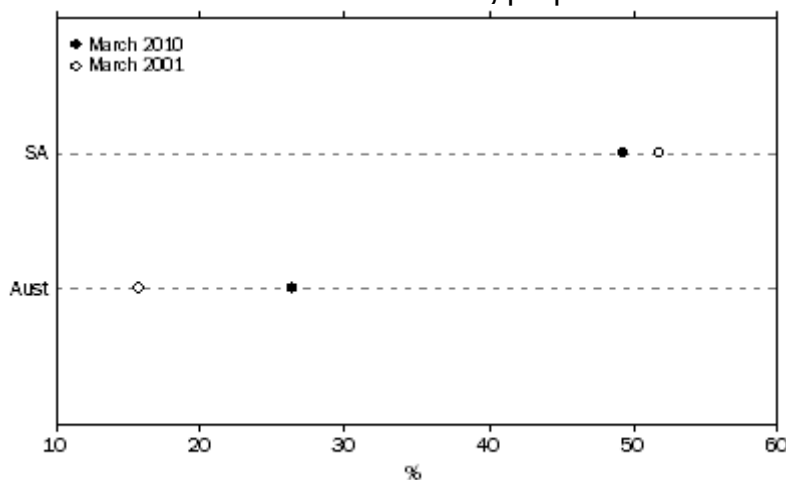
City (Adelaide area) households generally had a higher average daily water consumption than those in the country. Derived data from SA Water show that (in 2009-10) Adelaide households used 521 L per day compared with 438 L for the rest of South Australia.

RAINWATER TANKS

ABS data show that rainwater tanks provided water for 49% of South Australian households in the twelve months to March 2010, compared with 26% nationally. Moreover, 83% of South Australian households outside of Adelaide (non capital city) used this resource, compared with 37% (non capital city) households nationally.

Over the recent decade, and of all the states and territories, South Australia had the highest proportion of households using rainwater. Also, South Australia consistently exceeded corresponding national levels for rainwater tank usage.

rainwater tanks as a source of water, proportion of households



Source: ABS Environmental Issues: Water Use and Conservation (cat. no. 4602.0.55.003)

WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES BY HOUSEHOLDS

According to SA Water data, South Australian households consumed almost one third of their water in the bathroom - for self washing (20%) and flushing the toilet (11%). The washing of clothes was estimated to account for a further 16% of household water consumption, while cooking, cleaning, dish-washing and drinking (combined) accounted for 11% of total household water consumption.

When water restrictions commenced in South Australia, particularly the Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions (2007-08), the average daily use of mains water by households decreased by nearly one fifth from previous annual levels. Besides limiting the use of mains water on gardens, the restrictions also guided households to adopt other water saving behaviours.

To some degree, such actions may be reflected in results from the ABS Household Survey of "Environmental Issues: Water Use and Conservation", which recorded details for the twelve months to March 2010.

USE OF RAINWATER INSIDE THE HOUSE

The use of rainwater (from tanks) was a primary water saving method reported by South Australia's households in the twelve months to 2010. It provided the main source of water supply for bathing and showering in 12% of households (compared with 6% nationally) and

for the washing of clothes, 12% compared with 7% nationally.

The use of rainwater for washing clothes was mainly confined to households outside of capital cities. For example, 41% of households outside of Adelaide used this method compared with just 2% in the city. Nationally the corresponding proportions were 15% (outside capital cities) and 7% (in capital cities).

OTHER WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES INSIDE THE HOUSE

For the 12 months to March 2010, 62% of South Australian households took steps to save water in the bathroom, compared with 59% nationally. Another 59% of South Australian households acted to save water in the laundry compared with 55% in Australia. A further 41% took steps to save water in the kitchen, slightly below the national result (44%).

To March 2010, the South Australian household use of water saving devices was as follows:

- water-efficient shower heads, 65% of households - up from 37% in 2001;
- dual flush toilet, 89% of households - up from 72% in 2001.

To March 2010, other water conservation actions taken by South Australian households included:

In the bathroom:

- taking shorter showers, 36% of South Australia's households - compared with 37% for Australia;
- turn off the tap while cleaning teeth/shaving, 23% of households - compared with 24% for Australia ;
- check and fix leaking/dripping taps, 13% of households - compared with 8% for Australia;
- installed water saving product, 13% of households - compared with 11% for Australia;
- collecting grey water, 12% of households - compared with 9% for Australia.

In the laundry:

- only using washing machine when fully laden, 25% of South Australia's households - compared with 27% for Australia;
- collecting grey water, 14% of households respectively - compared with 11% for Australia;
- buying a water efficient washing machine, 14% of households - compared with 11% for Australia;
- adjusting water level when washing, 13% of households - compared with 12% for Australia.

In the kitchen:

- use plug in sink/don't leave tap running, 15% of South Australia's households - compared with 14% nationally;
- wait until sink full before washing dishes, 15% of households - compared with 13% nationally;
- only use dishwasher when fully loaded, 11% of households - compared with 12% nationally;

- use less/reuse water in sink, 11% of households - compared with 7% nationally.

SOURCE OF WATER FOR OUTDOOR USE

Recent SA Water data suggest that around 40% of the average household's total water consumption is used for outside purposes, in particular for watering gardens and lawns. This section examines water usage and conservation by South Australian households that kept a garden.

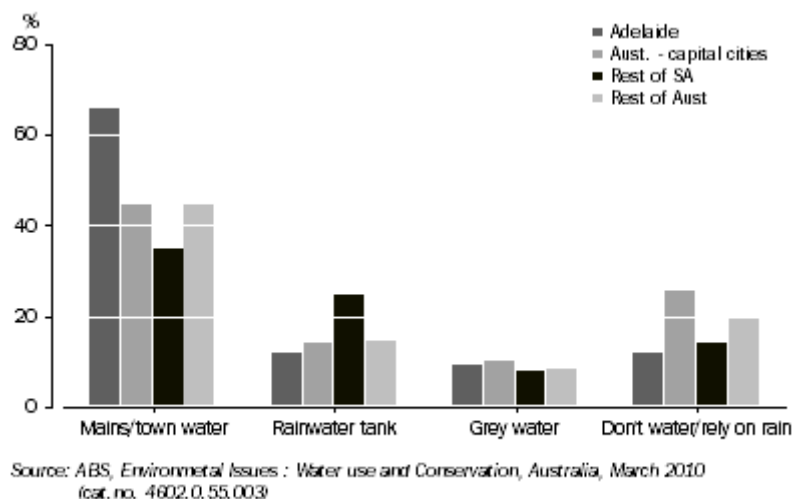
ABS data show that the percentage of South Australian households having their own garden fell from 91% in 2001 to 87% in the 12 months to March 2010. Interestingly, the largest change occurred recently, between 2007 (when the proportion was 90%) and 2010. This change may be attributable in part to emerging trends or preferences in building construction, towards dwellings without gardens.

The main source of water used in the garden by South Australians in 2010 was mains/town water; 58% of households used this source, down from 67% in 2007. Nationally the corresponding level was 45% in 2010.

Rainwater from tanks became more prominent for outdoor watering in South Australia, up from 8% in 2007 to 15% in 2010. 'Not watering' (or relying on rain) also became a common practice, up from 9% in 2007 to 12% in 2010.

A greater proportion of Adelaide households (66%) used mains water on their gardens in 2010, compared with 45% for capital-city based households in Australia. Conversely, a lower proportion of 'ex-metro' households, outside of Adelaide used mains water on their gardens, 35% compared with 45% for non capital city households/rest of Australia; moreover, these South Australians used proportionally more rainwater from tanks (25%) than non-capital city households/rest of Australia (14%).

main source of water for household gardens, capital city and rest of state/Aust., March 2010



WATER CONSERVATION ACTIONS OUTSIDE THE HOUSE - IN THE GARDEN

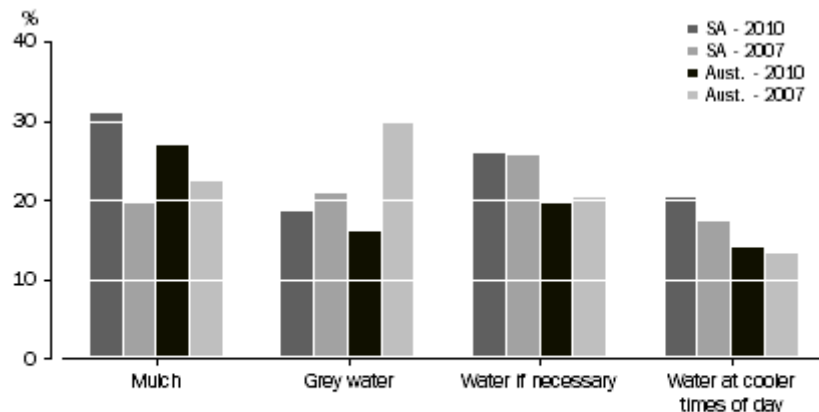
Of South Australian households with gardens, 70% reported water saving activities in the twelve months to March 2010 compared with 78% in the twelve months to March 2007. The

Australian estimates for these two periods were 62% and 71% respectively.

The main water saving steps taken by South Australian households in their gardens over the 12 months to March 2010 and to March 2007 were:

- use of mulch, 31% of households at March 2010 and 19% at March 2007;
- only water if necessary, 26% of households at March 2010 and 25% at March 2007;
- water at cooler times of day, 20% of households at March 2010 and 17% at March 2007;
- use grey water, 19% of households at March 2010 and 21% at March 2007.

main steps to conserve water in the garden, In last 12 months to March 2010 and to March 2007



Source: ABS, *Environmental Issues : Water use and Conservation, Australia, March 2010* (cat. no. 4602.0.55.003)
ABS, *Environmental Issues : Peoples Views and Practices, March 2007* (cat. no. 4602.0)

SUMMARY

While South Australia's households are mainly reliant on mains/town water supplies, they have led the way nationally in the use of rainwater. When the South Australian Government introduced the Permanent Water Conservation Measures in late 2003 and the tighter Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions in 2007, South Australian households responded in reducing their daily household water consumption by 16% between 2002-03 and 2003-04, and by 21% between 2006-07 and 2007-08.

For the period 2001 to 2010, South Australia's households also became more active in taking measures to save water indoors and in their gardens.

With recent good winter rains, the replenishment of state water stocks and some recent lessening of water restrictions, it will be interesting to watch their impact on future household water consumption and conservation habits, as reflected through SA Water and ABS surveys.

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SA Water Annual Reports 1998-99, 1999-2000,2000-01- provided by SA Water on request

SA Water, Level 3 Enhanced Water Restrictions, [Water for Good Annual Statement 2010](#),
<http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au/>

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